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*ADMITTED TO A BAR OTHER THAN D.C.

February 13, 1998

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Attorney Reference: STS-119

Sir:

Submitted herewith is the following patent application:

Inventors: Edward M. SCHEIDT, C. Jay WACK

Title: CRYPTOGRAPHIC KEY SPLIT COMBINER

The application includes:

[X] A description pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.71.

[X] At least one claim pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.75.

[X] Drawings pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.81(a) (2 sheets)

[X] Claim for Priority

In view of the above, it is requested that this application be accorded a filing date pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b). Priority of prior Provisional Application serial number 60/039,696 filed February 13, 1997, is hereby claimed under the provisions of 35 USC §119(e).

A Declaration signed by the inventors and the filing fee will be submitted in due course.

Please address all communications to:

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Respectfully submitted,

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TMC:vap Enclosures